

Gov. Leavitt Opens 3.2 mile Soldier Hollow Loop Road



Skiers Trey Oxford, Stine Hellerud and Geoff Howe break through a banner signaling the opening of the Soldier Hollow Loop Road. Pictured bottom right are Grant Thomas, Gov. Michael Leavitt, John Njord and Geoff Dupaix.

Wave photos by Tish Dahmen

A ceremony was hosted Monday, Nov. 20, by the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) to celebrate the opening of the access roads to the Soldier Hollow Olympic venue in Wasatch County.

Utah Governor Michael O. Leavitt, SLOC Vice-President of Venues and Transportation Grant Thomas and UDOT Deputy Director John Njord and other state and local dignitaries attended the 11 a.m. opening ceremony on the Shuttle Loop Road.

UDOT's Region 3 Public Involvement Coordinator Geoff Dupaix gave the opening remarks.

Njord said, "This road needs to be here for a long time. We appreciate the quality of work put in to it."

Leavitt spoke of the venue's role in the upcoming Olympics. He noted, "In 16 months these scenes (of the surrounding area) that are known to us will be world famous."

After Leavitt's remarks, a banner was rolled out for cross-country skiers to ski through to mark the road's opening. Skiers Geoff Howe, 18, of New Hampshire and

Trey Oxford, 17, of Park City, represented the U.S. Nordic Combined Development Team. Stine Hellerud, 26, of Norway is the cross-country ski coordinator for the SLOC. She is a past member of the Norwegian nordic ski team.

Local dignitaries, Wasatch County Commissioner Mike Kohler, Wasatch County Olympic Coordinator Bob Mathis, and Wasatch County Economic Planner Robyn Pearson attended the road opening ceremony.

UDOT and Valley Asphalt rebuilt and improved the existing roads which had been mainly dirt and gravel. The roads were widened and brought up to highway standards.

Parking lots and a shuttle loop were also added to aid in safe transportation for the general public and athletes into Soldier Hollow.



The final phase of the \$3 million project will be finished in the Spring of 2001 when Valley

Asphalt completes a chip-seal project along the roads. State and federal funds were allocated to finance the road project.

According to information released by UDOT, designers started working on the project in 1998 which included building and asphaltting 3.2 miles of roads.

The roads will return to the Utah State Parks and Recreation Division after the Olympics.

Terms...

Vote Trading

The automatic "runoffs" continue for as long as no candidate has yet earned a clear majority. If you want to stand pat with your favored candidate in every round, just don't pick a Second Choice. No matter how you slice it, no more risk of "throwing away your vote."

*There's an easy
electronic solu-
tion, though, that
lets people eat
their electoral
cake and have it
too: instant runoff
voting (IRV).*

What about the "spoiler effect" of Pat Buchanan and Libertarian Harry Browne in the election just past?

Many of their sympathizers doubtless preferred Bush to Gore as their bottom line.

True, Nader may have siphoned a Gore margin of victory in Florida—as well as in four other states whose total of 33 electoral votes could have given Gore the victory even without Florida's 25 electoral votes. But Buchanan's vote may well have cost Bush Iowa and Wisconsin. And Browne's vote was the margin of victory in Wisconsin well as Florida.

Under IRV, it's a sure bet that the winning candidate will receive a majority of votes in the first tally, even just a plurality.

marked their ballots empowering me to express their will and intent as their representative to the Utah State Board of Education. Your election-day support is gratefully and humbly accepted.

The other candidate, Richard T. London, is a long-time friend and associate for whom I hold the utmost regard.

I am honored to have been entrusted with the responsibility to act in your behalf to establish policy and to provide resources which ultimately benefit each of us as we join in the effort to secure the best possible educational experience for our children and grand-children.

I am committed to visit each school in each school district on an annual schedule and to meet with local PTA officers and community leaders as well as with district school boards and their administrators.

However, I do not expect to become the "Lone Ranger" for District 2 which encompasses some 12 school districts within the ten counties lying between Wyoming and Arizona, stretching from Mount Ogden on the Wasatch Front to the Four Corners.

I need all the help I can get if I am to be your pro-active representative. You must keep me informed of pertinent local problems, issues, and concerns which may be of general interest to the State of Utah.

To facilitate communication, an internet web site has been established. The site is being redesigned to serve as a District 2 bulletin board with links to related sites of interest on the internet.

The domain name may be changed in the future to be more descriptive of its purpose.

I solicit and welcome your questions and comments via the web site at www.aemccain.net.

My email address is aentac@prodigy.net.

A. Earl McCain
District 2, Board Member-elect
Utah State Board of Education

Asphalt Plant

Editor: Old 73 is at it again—writing another letter.

Since I'm a new guy in town with no axe to grind or previous experience with how things get done in Heber Valley, I guess I can shoot my mouth off and start making some "enemies."

I often drive to Salt Lake through Orem and then north on I15. So what! Well, every time I get to Lehi I begin to detect a distinct odor. I thought I hit a skunk the first time. But with every subsequent trip I discovered that as I reached Point of the Mountain, the asphalt plant let me know

Whether you are from way out east or west of just one of us southerners, come join is protesting and reinforcing your personal opinions and beliefs on this important subject.

Be there!

Act on your knowledge and feelings. Act like concerned people I know you are. If this passes, there won't be any hand counting of those ballots.

This decision is final and there will be not just one disappointed person but all of us.

Lambert J. Deegan
Heber City

Break-In

Editor: I'm no burglar and not reporting a theft, I'm Lambert (73), But I'm interested in learning to do just that — Break In!

I don't mean B & E, but how to get involved. Lots of us new people are really interested in finding out how our county and townships are run and how to get involved in formulating or reviewing policies and procedures.

Also, I bet there is a load of talent in every field (government, engineering, religion, education, social work, volunteering, seniors, planning, legal, management, politics, electronics, etc.) who might and should give some quality, part-time volunteer hours but don't know who, how, what or where to do it.

Like hunting for that light switch in the darkened guest room on the way for that 2 a.m. pit stop, we're moving around, stumbling and like mushrooms, we're still in the dark.

Please Mr. Editor(s), tell us; show us; flip the switch for us; show us what you can find out.

Let's see some competition in how good you are compiling categorizing, and computerizing a definitive but readable list. However long it is, all the better, with titles, names, locations, phone number, hours, dates and all necessary details we would need to have.

Let us stumblers see the light and have a current list to file away for the near future.

Let us serve our community with our talents and our (to us) valuable time.

You editors have an opportunity to pull the trigger of the starting gun that may turn into a real marathon of talent and abilities.

Don't just give us dates and meeting places. Give us some beef.

I challenge you — what can you lose? You won't get a Pulitzer even if you do a superb job. This is a real project for editors, not interns.